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little sympathy. With the handicaps of distance and linguistic difficulties, it is no easy manner to suggest a radically different method which would be an improvement on the one in use.

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It is still a fact that only a portion of the audience is reached by any speaker. To the majority each address is in an unknown tongue. While the interpreter is necessary, and of course does his best, he is something of a nuisance in that he necessarily interrupts the continuity of the proceedings.

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A few of the older attendants upon the congress felt that it was dull. It was generally felt that death and illness had thinned the ranks of men whose stature and weight made them commanding figures in congresses of the past and that no men of equal worth have arisen to take their places.

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The congress, instead of being discouraged by the happenings of the year past, rather felt that the calamities were leading the world at large more than ever to appreciate the awful stupidity of war and to listen to the arguments for peace.

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The position of affairs in the near East was comprehensively surveyed in a resolution condemning the powers for their failure to prevent or shorten the war, though a generous tribute was paid to Sir Edward Grey for his efforts.

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The congress, recalling the principles adopted at the congresses at Lucerne and Munich on the subject of war loans, protested against the support given to the Balkan war by cosmopolitan finance.

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The following cablegram was sent to President Wilson:

"Your plan for International Commissions has been unanimously approved by the XXth International Peace Congress in general meeting assembled. Earnest congratulations in behalf of the Congress."

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It was interesting to discover that nobody in Europe had heard of the appointment in the United States of a Preparatory Commission for the study of the program for the Third Hague Conference.

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Much was heard of the "new school of pacifists," with its emphasis upon the material well-being of the people; upon the financial aspects of war; upon the principles set forth in such recent books as "The Great Illusion."

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Due notice was taken of the recent meeting of the representatives of the French and German parliaments at Berne, which seems destined to inaugurate a new era in the relations between those two important powers.

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The congress condemned the present system of alliances between groups of nations and advocated its gradual transformation into a general federation of the powers.

Upon an invitation given by the Baroness Bertha von Suttner, it was voted to hold next year's congress, probably during the month of September, at Vienna.

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The invitation from the mayor of San Francisco to hold the 1915 congress in that city was postponed for a year.

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On a few occasions it was apparent, especially at some of the social functions, that all pacifists are not, therefore, always tolerant and courteous.

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No one could doubt the presence and influence of women in the congress.

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Nearly one thousand members were registered.

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The weather was perfect.

Project of an International Treaty for the Arrest of Armaments.

Professor Quidde, of the University of Munich, offered at the Twentieth International Peace Congress a plan consisting of four parts and fifty-five articles, with the aim of carrying out the spirit of the manifesto of the First Hague Conference in 1899. The Professor proposed that the nations be asked to adopt this plan, at least for a limited time.

Part I of the plan deals directly with the limitation of expenditure on armaments. It is proposed that the contracting powers agree that the present position of their annual normal expenditure shall be tabulated definitely, fixed and agreed upon under the three general headings of military expenditure, naval expenditure, and pensions, with the provision that to these must be added the expenditure for armaments in crown colonies, protectorates, dominions, or the like. The plan provides that the contracting powers agree not to increase during the period of this treaty the amounts expended by them for armament purposes. In this expenditure, limited by the convention, it is permitted that certain sums may be spent in the years and by the States named for transitory purposes, such as the completion of a program already begun, the renewal of armaments destroyed by war, etc. It specifically provides that the contracting powers shall not, during the duration of the treaty, put into commission nor lay down battleships of more than a specified number of tons.

Part II relates to garrisons and stations of warships and strategically important railways.

Part III, recognizing that many doubts will probably arise from the application of this treaty, recommends the establishment of a special permanent court of arbitration for the decision of all cases of dispute arising out of the treaty. The rest of the articles in this division relate to the constitution of such a court.

Part IV provides that the treaty shall become binding on the governments from the date of signature, and that it shall be enforced for the current calendar year and for five years further without notice of termination. If one year before the expiration of the treaty no notice of the termination shall be received, it shall be renewed for a further six years, with the proviso that the expenditure on armaments allowed in Part I shall, during the next six years, be diminished by 5 per cent. A similar condition, with a further reduction of 5 per cent in the expenditure, shall prevail with the beginning of each new term of the treaty.

If one of the signatory powers gives notice of withdrawal, which must be at least one year before the termination of the treaty, the treaty shall be terminated for all the powers, unless by special agreement another arrangement be made. Should one of the signatory powers during the duration of the treaty refuse to accept the judgment of the court, every other power shall have the right to give notice of termination immediately, and unless otherwise renewed by common consent the treaty relations between all the powers shall be dissolved.

While the Congress voted to leave this plan for further study, and while the Third Hague Conference may not easily be induced to accept Dr. Quidde's specific proposals, it remains true that millions of the world's best and most patriotic men in all countries are becoming more and more determined that the deadly blight of militarism shall cease.

The Conference of the Interparliamentary Union.

The Eighteenth Conference of the Interparliamentary Union was held at The Hague September 3, 4, and 5. This organization of 3,600 accredited members of the world's parliaments, beginning in the year 1889, is one of the most significant and well-known agencies making for international peace. Over three hundred delegates were in attendance at this Conference, a much larger number than were at the meeting in Geneva last year. Dr. M. Tydeman, Jr., of the Dutch legislature, presided.

The meetings, which were marked by unusual enthusiasm, witnessed a number of important resolutions and discussions. There was a committee to report upon maritime straits and canals, the chairman of which was Count de Penha Garcia, ex-President of the Portuguese Chamber of Deputies. Senator Burton, of the United States, was also a member of this commission. As a result of the work of this commission, the Conference agreed to the principle that there should be an express recognition of the right of free passage to vessels of commerce without distinction of flag, in time of peace and war, in all straits uniting two seas which are not inland seas and interoceanic canals proper. It was agreed that there should be a strict prohibition of blockade of these straits and canals; that the placing of mines and torpedoes completely obstructing the passage of these straits

and canals should be forbidden, and that all ships should be advised of the placing of mines and torpedoes in territorial waters. It was agreed that lights of lighthouses marking the passage of these straits and canals should not be extinguished even in time of war; that the treaties concerning such straits and canals should include the use of arbitration or other means for the settlement of disputes relating to the application of the interpretation of these treaties. It was urged that these principles should become a part of international law.

There was a commission on the declaration of permanent neutrality, the chairman of which was Dr. Munch, Deputy Secretary for National Defense, Denmark. This committee presented most important resolutions looking toward the limitation on the part of a number of powers which may become involved in armed conflicts. It aimed to establish more clearly the rights and duties of the powers having declared themselves permanently neutral. It set forth a number of rules, providing, among other things, that any signatory power may declare itself permanently neutral, pledging the powers to respect such neutrality and to govern the behavior of neutral powers in time of war between other nations.

Problems relating to the rights and duties of neutral powers in the case of naval war received special attention by the committee, the chairman of which was M. van Huoten, formerly the Home Secretary of Holland. The committee pointed out the weakness of the treaty of October 18, 1907, relating especially to the neutral power which has insufficient means at its disposal to fulfill the duties laid down by article 25. It was proposed that the bureau be authorized to bring this matter before the international committee which will be instituted to prepare the next peace conference.

The Committee on War Loans was headed by Count Goblet d'Alviella, vice-president of the Belgium senate. This committee emphasized the importance of opposing loans by neutral powers to belligerent nations. The commission agrees with those jurists who denounced such loans as a violation of neutrality. The position was definitely and unanimously taken by the Conference that every effort should be made to do away with such loans, both as a matter of justice and of international peace.

A universal penny postage—in the language of the United States, a universal two-cent rate—for all the nations met with the unanimous support of the Conference. It was recommended to the Congress of the Universal Postal Union, the next meeting of which is to take place at Madrid in 1914, that the way should be opened for such a uniform penny postage for all letters under twenty grammes in weight.

Important steps were taken for a more effective co-operation of the Union, with its groups and international activity. The suppression by international agreement of military espionage was also urged.

From the new world only the United States and Canada were represented at the Conference. The delegates in attendance from the United States were: Senator Burton and Congressmen Evans, Ainey, Stevens, Slayden, Bartholdt, and McCoy. The commission, of which Senator Burton is a member, formed to frame a plan for an international court, did most important work on their report, which is to be presented at the next meeting of the Union at Stockholm, in July, 1914.